

Chapter 25: Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

Under the proposed project, both natural and man-made resources would be expended in the construction and implementation of the proposed project. These resources include the building materials used during construction; energy in the form of gas and electricity consumed during construction; and the human effort (time and labor) required to develop, construct, and operate various elements of the proposed project. These are considered irretrievably committed because their reuse for some purpose other than the proposed project would be highly unlikely. Although the proposed project would result in a net overall increase in open spaces and a wider variety of land uses, the land use changes associated with the development of the proposed project may also be considered a resource loss.

These commitments of land resources and materials are weighed against the public purpose and benefits of the proposed development: to facilitate the development of underutilized parcels on a former waterfront industrial site along the Gowanus Canal with residential (including affordable housing), community facility and commercial uses, and to provide a publicly-accessible waterfront open space for the community. *